

*Some Remarks upon Modern
Education.*

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S E R M O N

Preach'd in the

Cathedral-Church of *Canterbury*,

On THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5. 1728.

AT THE

Anniversary Meeting of the GENTLEMEN
Educated at the KING'S SCHOOL There.

By *DAVID JONES*, A. M.

Formerly MASTER of the said SCHOOL.

Now Rector of *Upper Hardres* in *Kent*, and Chaplain to His
GRACE the DUKE of *DORSET*.

Publish'd at the Request of the Gentlemen then present.

L O N D O N:

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Temple-Bar. 1729.

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Meeting of the

DAVID JONES

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TO HIS GRACE

L I O N E L,

D U K E of D O R S E T,

*Custos Rotulorum of the County of
Kent, &c. and Knight of the Most
Noble Order of the GARTER.*

M Y L O R D,



S Your GRACE presides in
the Civil Government of this
your Native County, and de-
rives by a long Descent from
Learned Ancestors, the Title of a

PROTECTOR to Men of Letters ; It would be a great Presumption, particularly in Me, to address to any other than to Your GRACE, the Concerns of the KING'S-SCHOOL, Here: Which, though it can't glory in the Honour of Your Education, MY LORD, may yet receive Advantage from this Claim to Your Patronage ; And encourages me to lay this plain Discourse (publish'd thro' the Importunity of Gentlemen, once my Scholars, and of several other Friends) at Your GRACE'S Feet ; As every other Production of mine ought to be, that can be deem'd worthy of the Publick, or the Regard of the DUKE of DORSET.

The Dedication.

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A further Inducement to this Address, is the agreeable Opportunity it gives me, of congratulating your GRACE on the great Proficiency in School-Learning, which the NOBLE LORDS, Your Sons, have made in a renowned Nursery of EMULATION; Of which they gave such early and applauded Proofs, as were a happy Prefage to their ILLUSTRIOUS AUDITORS, of that GENIUS, They will inherit with your Grace's other Virtues.

That they may, in all Respects, fully answer the most enlarged Expectations, deservedly raised from these *Distinguished First-Fruits*; and may successfully advance in a Regular, Dutiful and Honourable Course of
Great

Great and Noble Actions ; (Long under your Grace's Paternal Care!) to the due Support and Honour of the most Ancient House of *SACKVILLE*, and to the faithful Service of their KING and Country, is with great Ardency the sincere Prayer of,

MY LORD,

Your GRACE'S

Most devoted Humble Servant

and Chaplain,

David Jones.



Prov. Ch. XXII. ver. 6.

Train up a Child in the way he should go : And when he is Old, he will not depart from it.



THE Words are plain, and want no Comment ; the Matter also contain'd in them is obvious to every Man's Reason, and requires no further Proof. Nor shall I, in Pursuance of the laudable Institution of this Day, take Occasion to shew the Usefulness of HUMAN LEARNING, or the manifest Advantages of training up our Youth to it, betimes ; Which Topics have been frequently enlarg'd upon in this Place, with great Force and Perspicuity ; And the further Prosecution of them is altogether unnecessary in this Learned Assembly ; Where I see almost as many Arguments as Auditors, and do with Pleasure observe a very goodly Number of Hopeful Youths, as well as Worthy Parents, appear as so many Living Vouchers, for what might be said upon these useful Subjects.

Neither does there seem to be much occasion for my pressing one End of our present Meeting together ; Since *You have been forward, of your own Accord, many Years ago* : So that I may congratulate you on the Satisfaction, that the good Effects of your Beneficence have already reach'd to distant Parts ; and Persons, enabled by your seasonable Liberality, are now either prosecuting their Studies with Chearfulness, or labouring with Success in the Work of the Ministry. So great an Encouragement have You, my Brethren, to proceed in **GOOD WORKS!** and so visible a Blessing is God pleas'd to impart to this your well-directed Charity !

But, tho' I choose to pass over these several Matters, as having been **already pressed, or sufficiently illustrated** : Yet there are other useful Topics, proper for this occasion ; which, I think, have been as yet **but transiently, if at all, touch'd upon** Here ; Some of these therefore, I shall select out for our present Meditation ; and

FIRST, I shall recount some Peculiar **ADVANTAGES**, attending this ancient Seminary and Royal Foundation.

SECONDLY, I shall take the liberty even to **Hint at the DEFICIENCIES** of the Place.

THIRDLY, I shall propose to the Consideration of those Gentlemen, who are **PARENTS**, a few short Remarks upon Modern Education ; and under this Article I shall assign such probable Reasons, as occur to me, why some Men do depart (contrary to the Wise Man's Judgment in the Text) from those good ways, which, when Children, they were duly trained up in.

FOURTHLY, and **LASTLY**, I shall beg leave to address myself to those of my Auditors, who are not directly of us, in behalf of these Hopeful Youths before us ; Out of whose Mouths, God may possibly ordain such Strength, as may be of **Eminent Service** towards the Support of that Church, which **Our Governors Adorn, and We Revere.**

To

To take notice then of some Peculiar Advantages, which this School enjoys beyond (or at least equally with) many others ; The FIRST I shall mention, is the having so large a Number as this very REVEREND and WORTHY CHAPTER, to be the GUARDIANS of the Education of all Young Gentlemen, who are sent hither for Institution in Grammatical Learning : Whom I shall desire to consider as GOVERNORS, as EXAMINERS, and as PATRONS of the School. By the First of which Characters, they are appointed necessary Checks upon the Masters ; by the Second, they are the same upon the Scholars ; and by the Third, they are the Rewarders of them both.

Wherefore, to speak of this REVEREND BODY as GOVERNORS of the School : I shall take the Freedom of observing to Parents, what they possibly may not sufficiently consider, the Felicity arising to THEMSELVES in particular, from the happy Constitution of this VENERABLE SOCIETY. For a very great Felicity to the Publick it most certainly is, to have Men of distinguish'd Worth, Learning, and Eminence in our Church, assisting in the due Regulation of all those tender Plants, who are to be the main Support of the succeeding Generation, and the most shining Ornaments of this Flourishing County. What a happy Influence must necessarily flow from the immediate Inspection of Men of JUDGMENT and AUTHORITY ? Whilst they are interested and assisting in the just Reproof of the Slothful ; in the Removal of the Dull and Unprofiting ; in the proper Encouragement of the Docile and Diligent ; and in the general Improvement of all, of whatever Degree or Quality, who shall at any time be brought Hither for Instruction in Letters ? Besides, how may an anxious PARENT be allow'd to rejoice at the Satisfaction of having placed his SON, his HOPES, his DARLING, HERE ? Where he shall not be subject to the capricious Humour, and Arbitrary Will of one Man only ; But is sure of being govern'd in a free, liberal and improving manner, by the prudent Interposition and Influence of MANY, who are legally constituted Superiors and Governors to the very MASTERS themselves.

Altho' Masters are placed in the room of a Guardian, or even of a Parent, as indeed they actually* should be : Altho' they are intrusted with a very extensive Power, for the more effectual Execution of their Injunctions, and the surer Benefit of their Wards : Yet still they are frail Men, and subject to Human Infirmities ; And may themselves therefore, sometimes, stand in need of a little seasonable Coercion ; concerning which, many useful Remarks might be made : But as these would be less necessary to my present Design, I shall proceed,

SECONDLY, to consider this LEARNED BODY as the fix'd EXAMINERS of the School ; And in doing this, we shall find that the Advantage proceeding from hence rises very high, and the Benefit accruing to our Studious Youth is vastly Great : So that we may, with Propriety and good Assurance, apply to this occasion the Expression of the Royal Psalmist ; *Your Sons shall grow up here, as the Young Plants ; i. e. Quick and Verdant, and shall appear as Regular, Symmetrical and Beautiful, as the polished Corners of the Temple.*

Now that this Collegiate Nursery and Royal Foundation has a manifest Advantage, in this respect, over many other Regular and Publick Schools, will most plainly appear, by comparing the Present State of this with that of others : Which Disquisition will inform us, that the GOVERNORS of these, may, if they please, for Form's Sake, assist at a superficial Enquiry into the State of Grammatical Learning ; They may also be regaled with ELEGANCIES ; which, through total Ignorance, or long Disuse, they have no true Relish for : Whereas Here, every one of the REVEREND VISITORS is an approved Judge, and a distinguish'd Proficient in those Learned Languages, which our Youth is taught with Success, under their Inspection and Examination.

By this useful Constitution it appears, that the † Royal Founder, who was eminent for his Learning, and the equally Learned and Pious KING CHARLES the First (the Improver of the Statutes of this Church) had taken especial Care, that *Piety and good Learning should ever encrease and flourish in this Place, to the Glory of God, and to the Benefit and Ornament of the Com-*

* See Quintilian's Institutions.

† King Henry VIII.

Common-wealth. And this admirable Injunction was further improved, by designing the School for a perpetual Nursery to the Church: The Royal Founder exemplifying again the Words of the Psalmist: *Those that be planted in the House of the Lord shall flourish in the Courts of our God.* And through a Concourse of Youth, who might be invited hither from all Parts by these Encouragements; he seemed to desire, that the School, as well as the Church, should be METROPOLITICAL.

These and many other Provisions, established here with great Prudence, are certain Indications to me, that this Collegiate School may ever continue (as all her affectionate Sons and Well-Wishers do piously desire) a very Flourishing Seminary. Neither can our Zeal for her Welfare forbear being very much heighten'd, when we consider, How bright a Figure in the Learned World she made, many Ages ago: In those early Days, the Learned and Judicious *Camden* says, *'tis incredible how much this ancient City flourish'd upon the founding of this School*; And another faithful and well-inform'd * Antiquary expressly assures us, that *then* Canterbury *was a famous University*; And I will venture to advance one Step further, and aver what (I think) I can fairly prove, That it was the very First, and for some time at least, the ONLY ENGLISH ACADEMY for the whole SAXON HEPTARCHY; Being carefully modell'd by *St. Austin*, and his *Roman* Successors, according to the most Illustrious University of their own Imperial City; In like manner as King SIGEBERT'S DUMMOC or CAMBRIDGE was afterwards raised upon the Plan and Discipline observed HERE, and by MASTERS and PROFESSORS taken from hence.

Now indeed, since it is reduced into a mere Grammar-School, being also totally stripped of its College, that was once appropriated to it; Unhappily left like a helpless Orphan, and despoil'd of all ACADEMICAL ENCOURAGEMENT, except only a few scanty EXHIBITIONS and slender Scholarships; Now, I say, there is no room to hope, under these dejecting Circumstances, that it should ever be raised again to the same EXALTED EMINENCE, which it certainly was at a THOUSAND YEARS ago:
But

* Somner, in his Preface to his *Antiquities of Canterbury*.

But yet still, considering the fore-mention'd Provisions and inviting Advantages, I do with Submission conceive, by God's Blessing, it may continue to be as well-regulated and as distinguish'd a Nursery for Grammatical Learning, as any of the most celebrated Seminaries of the Jesuits Abroad. For I dare be bold to affirm, OUR PROTESTANT SCHOOLS don't come behind THEM in any one Advantage or Convenience, absolutely requisite for the compleat Education of our Youth; except only in the single Article of Implicit Obedience, which is utterly inconsistent with that Native Freedom, they are entitled to from their Birth; and which suits as ill with the Liberty annexed to the Reformed Religion, as it does with a TRUE BRITISH SPIRIT.

I have insisted the longer on this Head of EXAMINATION, because I esteem it to be of principal Concernment, to the PARENT, to the SCHOLAR, to the MASTER, to the GOVERNOR, and to the PUBLICK: To the PARENT, who is hereby secured, of an Additional Care over his BELOVED; To the YOUNG SCHOLAR, who by these means is oftentimes roused into a laudable Emulation, and fired with a Desire of approving himself to the Learned and Judicious; To the MASTER, who by this very Emulation, is happily eased of the odious Drudgery of Correction, the most irksome Part of his toilsome Profession; To the GOVERNOR, who in return for the easy Encouragement of a kind Expression, and a favourable Appellation, never fails of receiving the reciprocal Obedience, and dutiful Demeanour of his young Catechumens; And lastly to the PUBLICK, which has often been bless'd, through these very means (however trivial they may possibly seem to some) with a Bright and Valuable Genius; which might otherwise have lain in Obscurity, Unobserv'd and Unencourag'd.

THIRDLY, I should now, according to my proposed Method, address myself to this LEARNED BODY as the PATRONS of the School, and shew the many Benefits arising from Hence: But fearing that I have already trespass'd too long upon your Patience, under the preceeding Topick, I shall beg leave to pass over this Article, and proceed to

ANOTHER very eminent Advantage attending this well-situated Place; an Advantage, which is calculated to please the tenderest of MOTHERS, as the former may satisfy the most careful of FATHERS; and that is the Goodness of the Air, and the great Conveniencies for preserving the Health, as well as for improving the Mind of the young Students.

That this is remarkably an Attendant on this happy Place, I appeal to the lovely, florid, wholesome Looks of all the Youth present before us; Amongst whom a puny, sickly, aguish Countenance is not to be found; so that I may well affirm, HERE are certainly to be met with all the Requisites, necessary for obtaining that great Blessing of Life, a SOUND MIND in a SOUND BODY.

That these are real Advantages, perhaps it may not be so well discern'd by those, who constantly enjoy them, and do therefore only look upon 'em as common ordinary Conveniencies: But I would gladly be inform'd, what suitable amends can be made to an Ancient, Worthy, or Noble Family, if its HEIR, for the sake of Letters and Languages, should have his Constitution depraved by Confinement, or the Natural Gaiety of his Spirits broken by unnecessary Rigours, and relentless Discipline, perhaps not always exercised on the most justifiable Occasions. We all well know, that in these tender Years they are susceptible of any Form, and pliable to any Posture: But yet it must be remembred upon that Account, they may be as quickly broken.

This Consideration therefore deserves a peculiar Regard from those Parents, who desire that Their Children may be Healthful, as well as Learned; Since Here they may see many goodly CEDARS, train'd up under the Shadow of THESE OAKS, who as far exceed their Fore-fathers in Stature, as they do in Knowledge.

If it were necessary in this Audience to shew how essential Ingredients a Healthful Situation, and due Exercise are to the Educated, from the Opinions of many Eminent Men, who have wrote on this Subject; we should find, They do all concur, from the experienc'd *QUINTILIAN* down to the judicious

cious *LOCKE* in confirming what I have here advanced, and do sufficiently authorize me to pronounce this Place eminently happy, in this SALUTARY Respect.

These appear to me to be some of the valuable Advantages of this School: besides these, others might be named, which I shall now pass over, and proceed, as I proposed,

SECONDLY, to hint at its DEFICIENCIES also: what I imagine to be wanting towards making this such a Great, Useful, and Flourishing SEMINARY, as it certainly was many Centuries ago; and such as the Royal Founder plainly design'd and expected it should be Now.

That His Expectations, in behalf of it, were really very great, does most evidently appear from certain remarkable Circumstances: But yet, notwithstanding the great Hopes he had conceived, and the Royal Favour he had shown to this Place; still here are DEFICIENCIES, whereof the First and Principal is the Want of our CANTERBURY COLLEGE: But as this great Loss, and undeserved Ejectment admits of no present Reparation, nor Hopes of future Restitution: I shall suppress all useless and unseasonable Complaints, as coming now too late; and proceed directly to what I esteem the

SECOND DEFICIENCY; *viz.* the Want of a more capacious School; and here I might exhort you to join with me in humble Petitions to Almighty God, that he would graciously dispose the Heart of some Rich and Munificent Benefactor, now in this Building Age, to erect Here, as has been done in many Other Places, a Larger and more Airy Structure; better suited to such Numbers as are answerable to the forementioned Advantages, and as might reasonably be expected to cover such uncommon Conveniencies.

But if such an Expensive Pile is rather to be wished for than expected, as vastly exceeding our Charitable Abilities, without the Generous Assistance of some Munificent Benefactor: Yet,

THIRDLY, there is another sort of Structure, much wanted here: which is eminently conducive to the Benefit and Well-being of the Studious Youth, and is confessedly in our own power,

Power, and may easily be raised by our own Hands, without Trouble and without Expence; *viz.* that of a PUBLICK LIBRARY.

By this useful Provision, Your Countrymen and future School-fellows may be put upon the level with the most forward and expert from other leading Nurseries, in respect of Classcal Learning; And, when they shall Here (according to the laudable Custom of the Place, and as becomes GOOD PROTESTANTS and LOYAL SUBJECTS) express their just abhorrence of POPISH CONSPIRACIES and HELLISH TREASONS, they may be enabled, through your means, to perform the Exercise with a due Propriety, with a becoming Elegance, with a copious Amplification and a moving PATHOS. And, with Submission I conceive, that no Man's private Collection is made with so great Exactness, but that he may well, without doing any Injury to himself, spare a Duplicate or two, for the furtherance of so very commendable a purpose.

FOURTHLY, under this head of Deficiencies, I might take the freedom of suggesting a very easy yet useful Expedient, which cannot possibly be a Detriment to any one, But may be of great Benefit to Many; By the due regulation of which, here might arise ample Profit, both to MASTERS and SCHOLARS: Encouragement would be given to Diligence and Study, and most especially to that eminent Advantage of a PUBLICK SCHOOL, EMULATION. EMULATION! which can with Ease, Zeal and Pleasure, effect much greater Wonders in Grammatical Affairs, than the servile dread of the Rod, and the terrour of the severest *Orbilus*. This rouses even the Dull and Lumpy; This effectually invigorates the Sprightly; This fires the Generous Youth, and agreeably infuses a becoming Ardour into Noble Spirits. This Spur is found most surely to quicken the Application; it also sharpens the Invention and Memory, to a Surprise, and forces the Studious upon exerting with advantage, their most latent Abilities. Nay, I may further affirm, the laudable Instigations of this wonderful Quality do often create New Faculties. For, to this Great Incentive, only disguis'd under another name, and carry'd on by more

Manly Pursuits, are chiefly owing the GALLANT PERFORMANCES of MANY, who, beyond all Human Expectation, have happily raised Themselves above the Croud ; Who have shone in COURTS, and sate with PRINCES. *Seest thou a man Diligent in his business ?* (says the Wise-Man) *He shall stand before Kings, He shall not stand before mean Men :* And I may with equal Reason add, Seest thou a Youth full of Emulation, and fired with a laudable Desire of Excelling ? Such a one is surely destin'd to Advancement ; he shall never be sunk in Obscurity.

More fully to evince the Truth of this useful Remark concerning School-Emulation, Let us further consider :— 'Tis probably owing to this attracting Quality, and the distinguishing Effects of it, that in our Days, *an uncommon Honour* is done to a Publick Nursery of Learning ; which a PRINCE of the BLOOD has condescended to visit.

And this is so early, so signal and perhaps so singular a Favour ; that we scarce read of an Instance of the same Regard being shewn to any other Grammar-School, Since the Royal *ALDHELM* left the Pomp and Attendance of the great King *INA's* Court, for the Improvements he could meet with in this your CANTERBURY-SEMINARY.

We may therefore well take Occasion, from the Influence of a more propitious Star in the Hemisphere of Learning, to offer up our devout Wishes, That his Royal Highness the DUKE, who was graciously permitted to be conversant with such as you, my younger Auditors, may be insensibly led on to Imitate, to Emulate, and to Excell ; And by the Methods of the most refined Education may be trained up a Royal Poet, and a distinguish'd Orator ; such as may equal *Henry* the VIIIth, or *James* the First in Depth of Learning, *Charles* the Second in Quickness of Wit, and the beloved *Anne* in the sweetest Gracefulness of a most charming Elocution.

And tho' we can't presume to hope for the same immediate Honours ; Yet a lower degree of this useful Emulation may, with little Trouble and no Expence, be effectually cultivated Here also ; and probably with such Success, as might fully
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establish a valuable Genius in this School likewise: Such as confessedly flourish'd here an Age or two ago, when the same Exciting Competition was duly encouraged; Such as Then raised up in this Place a very eminent Sett of worthy Men; Such as strictly verifies, even at this Day, the just Observation of an excellent * Historian, concerning the Rival Wits of the *Augustan* Age, and the wonderful Effects of this commendable Quality, which made the † *Roman* Orator excell to Admiration: In a word, Such as might, in some measure, compensate for the deplored Loss of our CANTERBURY-COLLEGE; At least, it might prove to the Honour of this ancient Seminary, to the better Improvement of our Youth, and to the more general Good of the Publick: But these Considerations most properly, and indeed solely, belonging to those Reverend and Worthy Governours, who are immediately interested in the Protection and Advancement of the School, I freely ask Pardon for this officious, yet innocent, Intrusion; And do now at last, after Digressing so far, proceed to a less-pleasing Subject, even to the

THIRD General Head, I at first proposed, to assign some probable Reasons, Why certain Persons Do depart (contrary to their own Benefit and the wise Man's Judgment in the Text) from those Good Ways, in which, when Children, they were duly trained up.

That this is sometimes true in Fact, I heartily wish, there was no room, from some fatal Instances of a late Date, to Prove! Now the Reasons for this falling off appear to me, chiefly to be Three:

* *Alit Æmulatio ingenia: & nunc invidia, nunc admiratio incitationem accendit, &c. V. Paterculus, Lib. I. Cap. XVII.*

† Angor, mi suavissime frater, angor— Illud, quod à PUERO adamâram

ἄλλο ἀπεσώσω καὶ ὑπερβολὴν ἔμμενα δάσκει

totum occidisse.

Tullii Epist. ad Q. Fratrem, Lib. III. Ep. v.

FIRST, a Natural Levity of Temper;

SECONDLY, our Youth's studiously suppressing in themselves the Seeds of Virtue and Principles of Religion; and

THIRDLY, a certain MODERN Method of EDUCATION.

But I shall insist only upon the Last of these, as most suitable to the present Occasion.

And even HERE, I must crave the most candid Interpretation of what I shall deliver under this Head, whilst I frankly submit to your serious Consideration some short Remarks concerning a New, Levelling Method of EDUCATION, altogether unknown to former Ages, but unhappily introduced amongst Us of late Years by some UNWARY PARENTS, with more Tenderness than Prudence. By which, they have affected to endear themselves Too-much and Too-soon, to their Children.

This ill-timed Step, this injudicious INDULGENCE has, in my humble opinion, been one main Foundation and Encouragement to many very pernicious Evils: In as much as it has largely contributed to the removing away from amongst us, the good old Marks and necessary Restraints of DUTY and DISTINCTION; and has thereby taken away ORDER and DECENCY, SUPERIORITY and DEPENDENCE; Introducing in their places CONCEIT and PERTNESS, sawcy FAMILIARITY, and downright CONTRADICTION. So that this very Indulgence has, by accident, stript the grey Hairs of their former Venerableness, and PARENTS of their just Obedience.

Nay further, these well-meaning but blinded Directors may, I fear, with too-much Truth be affirm'd to lay the main Foundation of their own Children's ill Courses, refractory Proceedings, disobedient Manhood and immature Deaths; Whilst they first use towards 'em too-much Indulgence, and afterwards too much Rigour; Make 'em much too-early their Bosom-friends and most intimate Companions; When they should rather preserve, for a while longer, a due Decorum and Distance; and still keep up with Decency, the Dignity of their PATERNAL AUTHORITY and that Reverential AWE; which the eternal Laws of God, and those of Man, have invested them with, for the

the Ease of Themselves, and the apparent Benefit of their Posterity.

The Excuse, that may be pleaded for this fond Proceedure, I well know, is This; — “ *Lest by severer Treatment and rigid Discipline, the Fine Spirits and Bright Parts of a promising Youth shou'd be check'd, broken and depressed:*” As if the Youth of this our SENSIBLE AGE was not forward enough of It self, and ready of its own accord, to break through the smartest Checks, and to force from the strictest Restraint! Without being instigated to such unbecoming Liberties by those very Persons, whose Duty it is to hold the necessary Reins; and for the manifest Benefit of their Unthinking Darlings, to maintain the Authority of their own Experience, Knowledge and Foresight, arising from the advantage of their Years.

HERE, if we enquire, What has hitherto been the most usual Effect of this ill-placed INDULGENCE; We shall find, it has commonly amounted to This; *viz.* That too-many of those, who have been thus train'd up, have proved MEN at FIFTEEN; FINE GENTLEMEN at EIGHTEEN; and REBELS at ONE and TWENTY. Too-many, I said; And, if a few Parents only have met with these unhappy Disappointments, Their Case, I am sure, will sufficiently justify the Use of the Expression; Since they find too-late by fatal Experience, that the Freedoms I now declare against, being fondly and injudiciously allow'd, do naturally produce too-great a Familiarity; which soon begets in Persons of quite a different Age, Taste and Passions, first a mean Opinion, Dislike and Contempt of their disagreeable MONITORS; And from thence easily proceeds, not only an Impatience of Controul, or even of good Advice from them; But a desire of Recriminating also, and a tacit pleasure in exposing them. And when matters are arrived at this Height, 'tis no wonder at all, if the HOARY HEAD be ridiculed by the BEARDLESS BOY; Or that the Vivacity of Unbridled Youth employs the smartest of its Talents, in setting off with Derision, the Infirmities of poor Old Age; Especially, if the over-weening Imprudence of the One has ever made the Other (who was to be denied Nothing) witness to
any

any Weakness; and most especially, if to any Criminal Excesses.

Notwithstanding what has been here said, with great Plainness and an honest Freedom, I would not be misunderstood, as if I appear'd an Advocate for the Obsolete Discipline and old Tyrannical Rigours of stern King *HARRY*'s Days. No! I now am, and (I hope) ever was, as much an enemy to all Unnecessary Severities, as the most tender Parent can possibly be; Being very sensible, that fine Parts and Excellent Endowments may be cramp'd and broken, ruin'd and made useless, by injudicious Treatment and unseasonable Coercion: And yet I must aver, that by avoiding One Extreme, we are unhappily fallen into Another; and by exploding Discipline, we are run into Licentiousness.

I dare also to affirm, that the queer Ages of Duty and Respect, of Diligence and Hard Study, produced much more Solid Learning and useful Knowledge, than the present Age of Politeness does; And, that One *BOYLE* or *SELDEN*, in the last Century, was far more valuable, and proved a greater Ornament to his Country and the Common-wealth of Letters, than a whole *ACADEMY* of the Fine, Forward, Superficial Gentlemen, with whom, (I fear) we now too-much abound.

But quitting this Subject, on which perhaps I have already said too-much, I shall now beg leave, as I propos'd in the

FOURTH and LAST PLACE, to address my self to all my Auditory in General; even to those, who are not directly of Us, in behalf of these Hopeful Youths before us; out of whose Mouths, God may possibly ordain Strength, for the defence of our most excellent Church and Constitution; Which, you very well know, is most virulently attack'd of late Years, by the professed Enemies of Our Sacred Order and Character, as also by the blasphemous Impugners of our Blessed SAVIOUR's Divinity, Miracles and Satisfaction.

The Wisest of Men calls the relieving of Accidental Objects, ** the casting your bread upon the Waters*; from whence there

* Ecclesi. Ch. XI. ver. 1.

is but little probability of its ever Returning to you with Increase: And yet he immediately subjoins, "*Thou shalt find it again after many days.*" Intimating thereby, that altho' the generality of Strolling Suppliants be never so Unworthy, so that we may well esteem what is given to Them, as quite lost; Yet the omniscient God, who knows the merciful Intention, and duly regards the most secret Beneficence of the Donor, will not fail, *after many days*, in his own good time, to return Sevenfold into the bosom of the Charitable.

And, if the relieving the necessities of an Unknown, and perhaps a Worthless Wretch, nay a vicious Itinerant, is performing an Office, acceptable to God, and beneficial to Our selves: With How much greater Reason may we conclude, that the cherishing these tender Plants, (whom we know to be endued with lovely Innocence, unsullied Purity and an Early Piety; And who are of the Household of Faith;) is a Beneficence more pleasing to Heaven, and will be amply rewarded by our gracious God, who esteems it as tending directly to His own Glory, and the more certain and general Good of his Creatures?

Besides, it deserves to be considered, In common Charities, You relieve ye know not Whom: But here, You are certain of assisting the Son of your own Countryman, of your Neighbour, and perhaps of your Friend or Relation. And, can your Liberality be better bestow'd than on those, who are of Your own Blood? Whose Posterity may probably repay the Favour to your Children's Children; and so the Return of good Offices may be reciprocally and commendably kept up, to many Succeeding Generations.

Give me leave to add further, I take this sort of Charity (of which We our selves are Overseers and Dispensers; which therefore, We are well assured, is liable to no manner of Corruption) to be in some degree Equal to the pious Benefactions of those well-disposed Persons, who found Alms-houses for the Aged, and Hospitals for the Decrepit; Nay, with Submission, I esteem these Hopeful Objects to be preferably Deserving. For, whereas the main Design of those laudable Donations is, that
they

they who have lived industriously, may die piously; that they may be free from distracting Dreads of Penury in their Old Age; And so may endeavour, by their daily Prayers and Praises, to secure their Peace with Heaven, *before they go hence, and be no more seen*: This Charity, which I am now pleading for, seems to have the Advantage, and to deserve the more ready Encouragement; In as much as it is design'd for the Diligent, for the Ingenious, and the Promising Youth; Whose future Fortune, Abilities and Usefulness we don't yet know, but Hope well of; Some of whom may happen to become serviceable to the Church of Christ, and to prove at least strenuous Labourers in the Gospel, if not Persons of Eminence and *Men of Renown*.

And shall we then not chearfully spare, out of what God has blest us with, some part Annually, towards the due Support of so laudable an Institution, and the Well-being of those, who may, in time, by their grateful Prayers, derive a Blessing on their very **BENEFACTORS**? Shall we, instead of proceeding in Good Works, and aspiring still to a Higher Perfection, talk of dropping so Useful a Design, which is amply confirm'd by the Practice of many Flourishing **SOCIETIES**? God forbid! What? Shall **Charity-Schools** flourish every-where throughout this Kingdom? Shall They be powerfully recommended by the Elegant Pens and Moving Arguments of the most celebrated Orators amongst us, and be plentifully supported by large Contributions? When the utmost Benefit propos'd from them is only the removing away that gross Ignorance, with which the Poor were formerly over-spread; the laying of the First Rudiments of Christianity, and the training up of good and useful Servants? And shall We, my Brethren, be less Zealous for the seasonable Assistance and Encouragement of Hopeful Youths, who have already made a commendable Progress in the Learned Languages; Who may possibly excell beyond expectation, and may become hereafter the brightest Ornaments of their respective Universities; Or at least may prove the happy Instruments of *turning Souls to Righteousness*.

But

But especially, shall this Most ANCIENT SEMINARY, This ROYAL FOUNDATION, This MOTHER-SCHOOL, This ORIGINAL ACADEMY, want PATRONS? Shall she be left quite destitute now in her declining, yet venerable, Years; who has in ALL AGES sent forth Men of WORTH and EMINENCE, both in CHURCH and STATE? Which could formerly glory in her MANY ILLUSTRIOUS PUPILS, ARCH-BISHOPS and BISHOPS in great Numbers; And, in these later Centuries, might deservedly value herself upon some few PRELATES: Her most Reverend *FREWIN*, her Celebrated *GUNNING*, and her Eloquent *WHITE*; As also on her Right Noble *FINCHES*, her ingenious *SAVILES*, and her Learned *BOTLES*. GREAT and SPLENDID NAMES, THESE! And yet not more distinguish'd by their High Birth, than by their Personal Abilities, which were HERE improved.

To these we may add her CLASS of WRITERS; such as her polite *LINACRE*, her curious *TWYNES*, her judicious *SOMNER*, her learned *SPENCER*, *JENKIN*, *JOHN SONS*, and her IMMORTAL *HARVET*.

We may also subjoin a very long List of Ancient and Honourable Persons, her constant Pupils of Old, whom I may call some of the ABORIGINES of this Happy County.

ALL these, besides MANY OTHERS, whom with an Affectionate Joy I behold here present, the Living Branches of several Flourishing Families, have happily proceeded from under HER WINGS. So that she can, even at this very Day and in this her lowest State, justly rejoice in her SENATORS of Worth and Distinction, in her Eloquent ORATORS, in her able PHYSICIANS and her learned CLERGY.

And now, Shall She, I say, among such a numerous Progeny, not find Favourers and Patrons, to support so excellent a Design? Especially, when it may be done at so moderate an Expence, as that of a small Free-will Offering?

SURE I am, in many other Parts of this Kingdom, the Contributions on such Occasions run very High, and loudly proclaim the GENEROSITY of the DONORS; And I am as sure, that considering the Want of Academical Encouragement, the Rea-

sons for the Charity are Greater Here, tho' the Zeal be not so.

But, however This may cool or flag with SOME, yet I beseech You, my REVEREND BRETHREN, Let it never be said of Us, that we expend freely and liberally upon our FOIBLES (for FOIBLES, in Truth, it must frankly be confess'd, We also have) : But sparingly and niggardly upon so Useful, so Publick a Benefaction. Much less let it be said of ANY of Us, that out of any private and by-end, we withdrew from that Course, we had happily begun; and instead of growing in GRACE, which is best shown by ACTS of BENEFICENCE, we loved this World, or our own selfish Humour, more than the visible Good of Mankind, and the apparent Service of God.

Let us rather gladly lay hold on these favourable Opportunities of causing *Our Light so to shine before Men, that They may See our Good Works, and Glorifie our Father which is in Heaven.*

To Whom, with the Plessed Jesus and the Holy Spirit, Three Persons and One Eternal God, be all Honour and Power, Might, Majesty and Dominion, Now, Henceforth, and for Evermore. AMEN.



